

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MANILA 19130 091100Z

47

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 DODE-00 ACDA-07 /050 W

----- 056800

R 090805Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3732

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 19130

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RP, SN

SUBJECT: ALLEGED SINGAPORE MILITARY TRAINING IN THE PHILIPPINES

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF DEC 8, SINGAPORE EMBOFF DESCRIBED AS "UNTRUE" AND "PURE CONJECTURE" A REPORT IN DEC 3 ISSUE OF FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW ALLEGING THAT AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED WITH PHILIPPINES FOR SINGAPORE TROOPS TO BEGIN TRAINING ON AN UNSPECIFIED PHILIPPINE ISLAND. ACCORDING ITEM WHICH QUOTES "MANILA SOURCES" (BUT WHICH ACCORDING FEER CORRESPONDENT ORIGINATED IN TAIPEI), NEW PROGRAM CODE NAMED "EXERCISE RED FERN" WILL BE FOLLOW-ON TO PRESENT "EXERCISE STARLIGHT" IN TAIWAN, INVOLVING ARTILLERY, ARMOR AND INFANTRY TROOPS.

2. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH OUR SINGAPORE COLLEAGUES ARE USUALLY FRANK WITH US WE WOULD PREFER TO RESERVE JUDGMENT ON THIS REPORT PENDING FURTHER INFORMATION.
SULLIVAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY TRAINING, ALLEGATIONS, MILITARY AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MANILA19130
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760455-0476
From: MANILA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761259/aaaabyie.tel
Line Count: 51
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 MAY 2004 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <16 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ALLEGED SINGAPORE MILITARY TRAINING IN THE PHILIPPINES
TAGS: PFOR, MILI, RP, SN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006